

**Developmental Disabilities Council
Public Policy Committee
DRAFT MINUTES
January 19, 2006**

Present: Lori Flood (chair), Janet Adams, (DDD), Bill Anderson, Leo Finnegan, Larry Garman, Leandro Razo, Mark Stroh (WPAS), Diana Zottman

Staff: Donna Patrick

Call to Order /Adjust Agenda / Approve November Minutes

Lori called the meeting to order and introductions were made. There were no adjustments to the agenda.

MOTION: Public Policy Committee approves the November meeting minutes. Motion approved.

Legislative Reception

The group reviewed the legislative reception:

- There were 49 out of 147 legislators who attended
- There was lots more food this year, but Donna apologized for the lack of dessert
- Rough estimate of 300 people
- Costs and staff time for planning and putting on the legislative reception are shared among the DD Council, the Governor's Committee on Disability Issues and Employment and Parkview Services (a private, non-profit DD organization). It is a wonderful public/private partnership. Parkview raised money from mostly provider groups to help pay for the food and to bring people from central and eastern Washington to attend. It was noted that People First contributed 50 dollars. The Council thanks Parkview Services for all their help and their offer to cover any remaining expenses.
- There was discussion about how to motivate more legislators to attend the event. The first suggestion was to send out postcards. Another suggestion was for people to make personal contact by phone with legislators and their aides once or twice before the event. It is important that people from the various districts call their own legislators as this carries more weight.

- Have DD Council nametags for Council members.

Legislative Briefing

- The response from the group was generally positive. It was suggested that information on multiple legislative districts be provided for people with ties outside their own district.
- It was noted that in the past the legislative briefings had been open for more than just Council members. Staff will discuss this with Ed to re-look at the possibility of opening up the briefing to more people.

Advocacy Days

Advocacy Day is funded by a Council project and taken advantage of by a lot of people, but not many Council members. Additional committee members may attend. Even though there is a topic for any given Advocacy Day, all bills and issues are discussed.

Legislative Conference Calls

Council members have not utilized the conference calls. There doesn't seem to be a time that works for people. The group decided to stop doing the calls at a specific time and to let everyone know that Donna is available by e-mail and phone to update people and discuss issues as needed.

Residential Siting/Fodor Homes Reading 06-P1

There are two bills sponsored by legislators from the Shoreline area, which seek to restrict where people with disabilities could live because of neighbors who are reportedly upset about Fodor Homes and concerns about the impact of the children in the residential facilities on Shoreline School District. The bills are probably dead, but the issues are still out there. The group will have further discussions on siting of staffed residential homes and schools.

This issue is not isolated to one school district or legislative district. Local municipalities all over the state are dealing with similar siting/concentration issues.

Leo suggested that anyone who has the time should look at county comprehensive plans and community plans to see what the wording is in regard to housing for people with developmental disabilities.

Community Protection

Mark Stroh and David Carlson from WPAS discussed the community protection bill and the Community Protection Program (CPP). WPAS detailed their concerns with the program and Janet disputed some of their statements. Senator Kline has a bill to put the current program into law. WPAS would like a number of changes made to the program.

Task Force on Employment Policy

- Clare is going to be staffing this task force
- 4 council members have expressed interest
- Relevant stakeholders have been invited (DDD, counties, employment programs)
- This is to talk about the working age adult policy and give recommendations to DDD in April
- There will be two face to face meetings and a couple of conference calls

Legislative Issues and Budget Tracking Chart Reading 06-P2

The group discussed the issues on the chart, including accessible voting, vendor rates, employment, family support, caseload forecasting, provider wages and early intervention

Federal Issues

Clare went over the federal issues on the handout.

Report to Council

- Eliminate legislative conference call
- Discussed legislative and budget issues
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Next Meeting Agenda

- Wrap up on legislative issues and budget
- Interim issues to possibly discuss in depth (zoning/siting, crisis respite, early learning, community protection, unserved, Medicaid)

The meeting was adjourned.